

Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FDRE-00 DHA-02 SS-15 SCS-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 HEW-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

SCA-01 USIA-06 EB-07 IO-10 /099 W

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R 141008Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4115

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FOR AID/FDRC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, RO

SUBJECT: DISASTER RELIEF - ROMANIAN FLOOD

REF: A. STATE 188171

B. STATE 175005

C. BUCHAREST 3720

1. RE PARA 2 REFTTEL A, HAD ASSUMED INFORMATION AS TO EXTENT TO WHICH FLOOD ASSISTANCE WAS DISCUSSED DURING RECENT PRESIDENTIAL VISIT HAD ALREADY BEEN PASSED TO AID. SUBJECT WAS NOT DISCUSSED IN DETAIL BUT PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY MENTIONED US WOULD PROVIDE RECONSTRUCTION AND FLOOD CONTROL ASSISTANCE.

2. WE WERE SURPRISED TO LEARN FROM REFTTEL A THAT ANY US TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS BEING CONTEMPLATED ONLY ON FULLY REIMBURSABLE BASIS. ONLY PREVIOUS TELEGRAM ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (REF B) CONTAINS NO SUCH QUALIFYING PHRASE AND THEREFORE I ATTACHED NO STRINGS IN MY CONVERSATION WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DRAGANESCU WHEN MENTIONING QUESTION OF ONE OR TWO US EXPERTS COMING TO ROMANIA.

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3. ON THE OTHER HAND IT WAS CLEAR TO DRAGANESCU THAT I WAS

IN NO POSITION TO COMMIT US TO ANY GRANT ASSISTANCE SO FAR AS EQUIPMENT WAS CONCERNED. NOT KNOWING THE AMOUNTS OF MONEY INVOLVED IN MEETING ANY OF THE ROMANIAN REQUESTS (REF C) FOR STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS, NOT TO MENTION DISASZUR PREVENTION AND WARNING SYSTEMS, I DO NOT WANT TO MAKE A SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION AS YET. ON THE OTHER HAND I DO REQUEST DEPARTMENT AND AID DETERMINE WHETHER THEY ARE PREPARED TO RECOMMEND TO THE PRESIDENT THAT HE MAKE THE FINDING CONTEMPLATED BY SECTION 620(F), FAA OF 1961. CERTAINLY ROMANIA HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO QUALIFY UNDER OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES AS NOT BEING CONTROLLED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY. EQUALLY CLEARLY, OUR WHOLE POLICY WITH ROMANIA HAS BEEN AIMED AT PROMOTING ITS FURTHER INDEPENDENCE. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT WASHINGTON CRITERIA ARE FOR DETERMINING WHAT IS "VITAL TO THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES". MY TENTATIVE THINKING IS THAT WE OUGHT TO CONSIDER AT LEAST SOME GRANT ASSISTANCE TO ROMANIA IN THE LIGHT OF THE PRESIDENT'S AND SECRETARY'S STATEMENTS TO PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU IN THE LINE OF THE STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS SOUGHT AS WELL AS VISITS BY US EXPERTS IN HELPING DEVELOP DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND FLOOD PREVENTION PLANS.

BARNES

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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